

**Utah Department of Transportation
Utah Transportation Commission
Staff Update Meeting
November 13, 2014**

The Utah Transportation Commission convened in a Staff Update Meeting with UDOT staff on November 13, 2014, in the Ramada Inn Conference Room, 838 Westwood Boulevard, Price, Utah, at 3:45 p.m. In attendance were:

Commission Members: Jeff Holt, Kent Millington, Meghan Holbrook, Wayne Barlow, Dannie McConkie, Naghi Zeenati, Gayle McKeachnie.

UDOT Staff and others: Carlos Braceras, Jason Davis, Cory Pope, Bill Lawrence, Linda Hull, Kris Peterson, Rob Clayton, Eric Rasband, Rick Torgerson, Kevin Kitchen, Monte Aldridge, Clayton Wilson, Randall Taylor.

Welcome and Review Agenda

Carlos Braceras welcomed the group and reviewed the Staff Update meeting agenda. Introductions of those attending were also made.

State Safety Oversight for Rail

Linda Hull stated that UDOT has provided state safety oversight (SSO) for UTA's light rail since 1997. However, in MAP-21 significant changes were made to the SSO. Changes include financial independence, complete legal separation between the two entities, and enforcement, which will be implemented over time. UDOT is just waiting for rules to be drafted by FTA about what states will have to do to fully implement the SSO. Ms. Hull also said she has been working on a couple of the issues, one being the financial issue, and the other being legal independence, as it relates to the Transportation Commission. There has been discussion regarding the Transportation Commissioner appointed to the UTA Board and whether or not there is a conflict of interest to have a member on both boards. Ms. Hull suggested that at tomorrow's meeting, the Commission direct her to work with the FTA to draft a Commission policy for the Commission's consideration that states that where there's a perceived conflict of interest on safety oversight, the Transportation Commission member would recuse themselves from any discussion or vote. There was additional discussion regarding the funding issue and possible solutions. Ms. Hull also brought up a separate item and said that according to state code, the Commission is to appoint a member to the UTA board, but the chair has been doing that instead in the past. After talking to legal counsel, the suggestion was for the chair to make the recommendation for the full Commission to consider and then vote on it. She said that would need to be taken care of in the future.

SR-18 Bluff Street and Sunset Intesection Traffic Report

Rick Torgerson distributed a handout and said this item is in response to Mr. Richard Kohler's presentations that were made to the Commission at the meetings in Santa Clara and Bountiful. He noted that he asked Rob Clayton and Eric Rasband to look over the information and provide additional information. Mr. Rasband referred to the map on the handout and explained UDOT's traffic volume information, as compared to Mr. Kohler's downward trend in

his information. He said the location of the actual traffic counter was changed, so there was two different data points used. He further explained the information and the reason they are doing the project. Mr. Torgerson said they will be meeting with Mr. Kohler, as well as St. George City to discuss the information.

US-6 Study Update

Rick Torgerson introduced the item and Clayton Wilson gave an update on the US-6 study. The PowerPoint presentation/handout included information on US-6 corridor evaluation from Spanish Fork to Green River, long range plan projects (draft), long range plan lanes, average yearly crash comparisons – Levels 4 & 5, 2010-2012 crash heat map, 2010-2012 crash heat map from MP 178 to MP 300, 2010-2012 crash heat map in the Spanish Fork area, and US-6 total crashes by severity from MP 178 to 300.

ET2000 Plus Update

A handout was distributed and Jason Davis reviewed the issue with ET-Plus guardrail attenuators (end treatments). He explained that a change was made by the manufacturer to the design, and a lawsuit was raised against the company. FHWA has asked the company to perform additional crash testing of the ET-Plus and to provide specific information to them. UDOT is checking all the locations affected in the state and is waiting to see what the outcome will be. Mr. Davis noted that the Department will not be installing any of these specific guardrail end treatments, but there are other approved products that can be used. There was additional discussion on the testing.

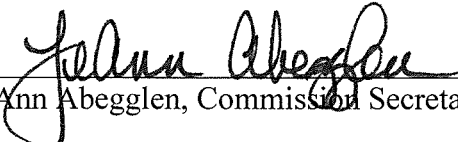
Uinta Basin Rail Update

Carlos Braceras distributed a handout that was a summarization of the commercial sustainability and commercial feasibility of the proposed Uintah Basin Railroad and said it had also been sent to Duchesne and Uintah County Commissioners. He said this was the results of a study that had been done on the risk analysis and the return on investment if the rail line was built, according to various revenue scenarios. There has been some good accomplishments made, but the counties will now have to decide if or how they want to move forward, based on the results of the study. UDOT has provided technical resources and offered their help. There was additional discussion on the study results.

Open Discussion

Carlos Braceras talked about the UDOT Conference that was recently held and discussed a couple of items on tomorrow's meeting agenda.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.



LeAnn Abegglen, Commission Secretary